

Serial No. 10/003,033
Conf. No. 2182

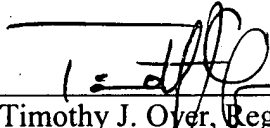
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Art Unit 2878

REMARKS

Claims 4-7, 9, 15, 18, 22, 24, and 28 have been rewritten to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 97 and 98 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-69, 80-89 and 99-108 are pending.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy J. Oyer, Reg. No. 36,628
Lisa E. Winsor, Reg. No. 44,405
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
Tel. (617) 720-3500
Fax (617) 720-2441

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MARKED UP CLAIMS

4. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second samples is two-dimensionally variant.
5. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the separate portions of the first sample are isolated from each other, and the separate portions of the second sample are isolated from each other.
6. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the separate portions of the first sample are exposed to electromagnetic radiation without exposing any portion of the first sample between the separate portions to the electromagnetic radiation, and separate portions of the second sample are exposed to electromagnetic radiation without exposing portions of the second sample between the separate portions to the electromagnetic radiation.
7. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, involving determining absorption of the electromagnetic radiation by each of the first and second samples and determining a difference in absorption of the second sample compared with the first sample.
9. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein the first and second samples are different fluids.
15. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein each of the first and second samples comprises a series of elongate, essentially parallel sections.
18. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein each of the first and second samples is two-dimensionally variant, and the diffraction pattern is two-dimensionally variant.

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22. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein each of the first and second samples is positioned in elongate voids in an article that is at least partially transparent to the electromagnetic radiation.

24. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein each of the first and second samples is positioned in isolated, essentially parallel channels in a sample chamber.

28. (Amended) A method as in [any preceding] claim 1, wherein each of the first and second samples is positioned in isolated, essentially parallel channels in a sample chamber that is essentially transparent to the electromagnetic radiation.

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